

Remarks/Arguments

The specification has been amended. Six pages of formal drawings are enclosed. New Fig. 11 has been added. Claims 20-30 have been canceled. Claims 31-40 have been withdrawn. Claim 41 has been added. Claims 1-19 and 41 are in the application upon entry of this amendment. Entry of this amendment, and re-examination and reconsideration of the present application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants acknowledge with thanks the Examiner's decision to allow claims 1-19.

The Examiner indicated that claim 30 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 30 has been canceled and rewritten in independent form as newly added claim 41. Applicants believe that claim 41 is in condition for allowance.

The drawings have been objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) on the grounds that the radio frequency identification device and the tie layers defined in claims 10 and 18 are not shown in the drawings. In response, Applicants respectfully submit that Fig. 10 which was submitted with the amendment filed February 3, 2003 discloses the tie layer specified in claim 19. Also, newly added Fig. 11, which is enclosed with this response, discloses the radio frequency identification device specified in claim 10. Withdrawal of this objection is believed to be warranted in view of the submission of Figs. 10 and 11.

Claim 28 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, on the grounds that claim 28 fails to further limit claim 20. This rejection is now moot in view of the cancellation of claim 28.

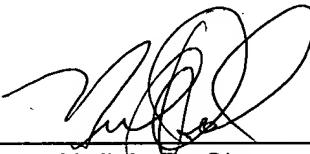
Claims 20, 21, 23, 28 and 29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by the teachings in Beinert et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,595,810). Claims 22 and 24-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over the teachings in Beinert et al. These rejections are now moot in view of the cancellation of these claims.

Conclusion

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. In the alternative, entry of the amendment is requested for purposes of an appeal. If any additional fees are required for the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account #18-0988, Docket No. AVERP2822US.

Respectfully submitted,

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